



Harvey B. Gantt Named Grand Marshal Of 2009 Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade

CHARLOTTE, NC – September 8, 2009 – Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., the producer of the annual Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade, announces that Harvey B. Gantt, former Charlotte mayor and a principal partner in Gantt Huberman Architects PLLC, will serve as the Grand Marshal for the 2009 Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade presented by Belk.

"I am delighted and honored to serve as the Grand Marshal for such a historic parade that has so much to do with bringing in the holiday season in the Carolinas," said Mr. Gantt.

The parade marches in uptown Charlotte on Thursday, November 26, a month after the October 24 dedication and grand opening of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts and Culture, which is named in honor of Mr. Gantt for his distinguished service as a civic leader, statesman, businessman, and avid supporter of the arts.

"Mr. Gantt appeared in the Thanksgiving Day Parade during his term as Charlotte's mayor from 1983 to 1987, and we are proud to welcome him back as our Grand Marshal this year," said Jon B. Hannan, Charlotte's fire chief and Carolinas' Carrousel board president. "His contributions to the community have made Charlotte a better place to live and work."

About Us

The Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade has evolved over more than six decades as a regional tradition and highlight of the Holiday Season. Founded in 1947 by four local businessmen to attract holiday shoppers to uptown Charlotte, the Thanksgiving week events have become so much more. In 2008, the Parade was recognized as the fourth largest Thanksgiving Parade in the United States. The Parade and its ancillary events are produced by Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., an independent, volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization. Carolinas' Carrousel is committed to enhancing regional area's community life through quality family oriented entertainment. The Parade officially announces and celebrates the beginning of the Holiday Season. In addition, it promotes excellence through awards to area high school students and marching bands. The Carolinas' Carrousel also exists to offer business, industry, and the local citizenry the opportunity of participating in showcasing the region and encouraging academic and artistic excellence in the future leaders of the area.

###